

to return the title of their past misdeeds under their Muhammadan conquerors. The Sanskrit title of Satyameva Jayate has been suggested.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1903. [CONFIDENTIAL]

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SELECTIONS

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VERNAACULAR NEWSPAPERS

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PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB.

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,

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ODDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

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British rule among the

POLITICAL

GENERAL

The Headmaster of the Scotch Mission School at Simkot, in an article communicated to the *Vakil-i-Hindustan* of the 23rd December, remonstrates against the adoption of the title of Qaisar-i-Hind which has been suggested by Sir William Muir as the oriental version of the English Empress of India. To a native, especially of the Hindu community, which forms the vast majority of the Indian population, the title of Qaisar-i-Hind is as foreign and unintelligible as that of the Empress of India, and thus fails to answer the purpose which Her Majesty has in view. It is the ardent wish of Her Majesty that her new title should be used familiarly by all her subjects, whether educated or illiterate. But the title of Qaisar-i-Hind will be used only by a few learned individuals, and will never gain currency among the masses. This title is unhappy on another ground. It is wholly of Arabic or Persian origin, and thus

serves to remind the Hindis of their past misfortunes under their Muhammadan conquerors. The Sanskrit title of *Syamajishwar* would have been sufficient for all purposes.

A correspondent of the *Oudh Akbar* of the 24th December, after adverting to the benefits which the English Government has conferred on the people of India, makes a suggestion for the favourable consideration of the Government. In honour of the assumption of the imperial title by Her Majesty, the Government should allow the chiefs of annexed states to return to those states, and take up their residence there on increased pensions. This indulgence should be shown to such of the deposed chiefs at least as surrendered their states to the English Government without any opposition or bloodshed, — as for instance, the ex-nawab of Oudh, Maharaja Dalip Singh, the ex-rajas of Satara and Nagpur, and so forth. There is nothing to be urged against this measure, but its trifling additional cost. It strongly commends itself on political considerations, for it would have no trifling effect in securing the loyalty of the chiefs concerned, and adding to the popularity of the British rule among the people.

The *Karnatak* of the 25th December publishes a continuation in verse from a respectable inhabitant of Haiderabad, commenting on the assumption of the imperial title by Her Majesty. The writer is at a loss to understand why Her Majesty has assumed the title of *Shahinshah*. She would find it a difficult job to become *Shahinshah* of Europe; and with regard to India the title has no meaning; for India has no shahs. Delhi has been laid waste; Madras spoiled of its splendour; Oudh, Gwalior, and the Panjab have all been ruined; Nagpur and Mysore deprived of their sovereigns; Holkar's outliers seized the welkin; the Nizam has been extensively plundered; Gwalior has been razed to the ground; the Marhatta name has perished with the last Bhatia. If the title *Shahinshah* is to have any significance, the representatives of these ancient dynasties should all be replaced on the throne of their ancestors.

This would be real justice, but all this is done, there is no profit in an empty sound.

The *Panjabi-Akhbar* of the 23rd December, in advertence to the reprimand dealt by Lord Lytton to the High Court in connection with the Fuller case, and to the subsequent assertion of its independence by the High Court in opposition to His Lordship, remarks that Her Majesty has expressed her approval of the just action of the Viceroy. It is preposterous to suppose that Her Majesty has not all along been as kind to her Indian subjects as she is now. No doubt the ministers of England were not so well disposed towards the natives before as they are now; that they have been informed of the loyalty and attachment of the natives to the English Government by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on his return from his Indian visit. The minute recorded by Lord Lytton in the Fuller case, and the assumption of the title of Empress of India by the Queen, are but the outcome of this visit. This very visit has also prevailed upon the English ministers to look with an eye of equality upon Englishmen and natives. It may be reasonably hoped that the natives will gradually contrive to attain all their rights and privileges, and all their wrongs and grievances will be redressed. The gratitude of the natives is due to the Government for all this kindness and favour. The Government should carefully continue in the same impartial policy.

A correspondent of the *Oudh Akhbar* of the 24th December, in an article headed "Which is in the wrong?" says that the parliament of England consists exclusively of seven hundred English members. Her dependencies, including India with its enormous population of two hundred and fifty millions, do not contribute a single member. But the infant parliament of Turkey is made up of five hundred and twenty members of different races and creeds. Now observe the vast difference between the policies of the two countries, and say

whether England is right or wrong. If Turkey is right we are right, glad to know that our Government is not in error. But if the reverse is the case, it is a matter of regret that the prejudiced and uncivilized Turk surpasses the civilized and polite Englishman. But let by-gones be by-gones. It is not yet too late for England to follow the example of the Porte. For whether it be right or wrong, this is my way of thinking. I cannot sit with thirsty throat, and watch my friends a-drinking. Is the Indian a slave or an animal? Has he no rights? Does he not pay an annual tribute of 57 crores of rupees? It is really a painful mystery that the thirty million people of England are represented by seven hundred men at the parliament, and the two hundred and fifty millions of India by none at all. England's motto at present is the verse,—
"I marvel much that those whose face exceeds the moon in splendour,
Should boast, O King, a heart that mocks at adamant as tender."

Turkey's motto is the verse,—
"O Turkish maid, I know not how one should sing thy graces;
Thy beauty is the envy of India's fairest faces."

CABUL.
The *Patila Akhbar* of the 25th December says that it appears from newspapers that a Russian envoy has arrived in Cabul on a curious mission. Russia has offered the Amir a crore of rupees, if he will allow her armies to march without opposition through his territories to India. Russia also promises to cede all the country as far as the Jhilum, which was once in the possession of Dost Muhammad, to the Amir. This report deserves to be received with caution. It is not easy to see how Russia can afford to pay the Amir a crore of rupees, while her liabilities amount to Rs. 3,30,00,00,000. But if this report be true, it is a matter of serious anxiety to India, because it is very likely that the Amir is ready to enter into such a profitable agreement with Russia. Indeed, if the Amir gets his crore of rupees, he will not hesitate to invade India on his own account. When the Amir was once at Unnaisa, the magnificent building of the native chief excited his curiosity as to the state

of the chief's finances. On being told that the chief's treasury contained seven crores of rupees in cash, the Amir could not conceive how a ruler with such a vast amount of money at his disposal could owe allegiance to another. The Amir said if he had only one crore of rupees, he would conquer Russia, and his emotion clearly indicated the truth and sincerity of his words. It may thus be seen that the temptation offered by Russia will be too strong for the Amir to withstand. The English Government should, therefore, try by an increase of familiarity and friendship with the Amir to prevent him from entering into any terms with Russia. In case of a friendly alliance between Russia and Cabul, horrible difficulties will arise in India, which it will be no easy matter to surmount.

The *Najmul Akhbar* of the 16th December says that it appears from the *Delhi Gazette* that the reply, which the Amir of Cabul gave to the Government of India's invitation to the Delhi darbar, was couched in very insolent terms. The substance of the reply, put as courteously as possible, amounts to this, that the journey to Delhi is no trifle; but, if the Government of India will give the Amir two crores of rupees in a lump sum, and pay him four lakhs of rupees per month, he can come to the darbars which that Government is so fond of holding. What he now gets from the Government is a recompense for maintaining peace and order on the frontier, and not a stipend for service.

The editor cannot persuade himself that the Amir wants to quarrel with his old and obliging ally, the Government of India. He is said to have been influenced by Russia, but as a matter of fact there are 10,000 Afghan soldiers ready for a Russian war on behalf of Turkey. The truth seems to be, as some newspapers have reported, that the Amir was prevented from attending by ill health.

The *Times* of the 24th December finds fault with the English Government for having wilfully disregarded the

of the Indian Press, which repeatedly urged on the Government the necessity of stationing a strong military force on the frontier, with the ostensible object of impeding the progress of Russian aggressions in Asia, but in reality to awe the Amir into adherence to his alliance with the Indian Government. The Government should not so lightly have forgotten the hardships and difficulties of the Cabul campaign in the time of Amir Dost Muhammad. Amir Shir Ali long continued to play a double part between his two powerful neighbours, the Czar of Russia and the Government of India, but now unusual pressure having been brought to bear upon him by Russia, he naturally leans in that direction. The frequent visits which the Russian envoy pays to Cabul, the hearty welcome accorded to him by the Afghans, and the long private interviews which he has with the Amir, are no insignificant facts. Nothing but what had been anticipated has come to pass. These things have naturally aroused the English Government from its persistent torpor. The Government has been put to no small expense in celebrating the ceremony in honour of the assumption of the imperial title by Her Majesty. It is not without a feeling of regret that the Indian tax-payer will defray the cost of an impending Cabul campaign. However, the people will be not a little delighted when the next durbar will be held to give significance to the conquest of Cabul. Here the editor reprints the translation, from the *Shola-i-Tur*, of the *Dakki Gazette's* paragraph about the Amir's answer and the probability of an invasion of Afghanistan by an army corps of 25,000 men under the Commander-in-Chief.

NATIVE STATES.
A correspondent of the *Vakil-i-Hindustan* of the 23rd December unfavourably criticises the administration of the Council of Regency at Patna. The policy of the Council is accused of being narrow and selfish motives. Their chief pleasure consists in upstating the administration of the late Maharaja, which was the result of the diligent and excellent exertions of Mr. Michael Foster, and in supplanting the

experienced and faithful servants of the state by their own favourites. Chaudhri Nandhar Khan has, with a view to his own private interests, appointed Sirdar Gurmukh Singh as the Nazim of Amarkot. This sirdar is the same man who was once a diwan in the time of the late Maharaja. He plotted against the life of the late Maharaja, and, on being convicted of treason, was discharged from the service, and all his estate was confiscated. It is not yet too late for the Government to become aware of its blunder, and take steps to keep up the old administration of the state.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 26th December draws the attention of the Nawab of Tonk to the reports so frequently spread about the maladministration of his state. If the reports are not altogether unfounded, the Nawab should endeavour to remove all cause of complaint. A strange rumour, says the editor, has been set afloat regarding the state. It is said that the misgovernment, tyranny, and severity of the Nawab have forced the Government officers to make an inquiry into the matter; and that the Nawab, seeing no successful way of vindicating his conduct, has tendered his resignation of the throne, which has been recommended by the local officers to the Supreme Government. The Nawab has been conducting the administration in utter disregard of the counsel of the local officers. The state will be brought under British administration, neither of the two sons of the Nawab being capable of being entrusted with the affairs of the state. The elder one is afflicted with leprosy, and the younger one is weak and low-spirited.

A correspondent of the *Nasir-ul-Akhbar* of the 21st December, writing from the Panjab, complains that no man living in a native state is so foolish as to correspond with any vernacular newspaper. Every one knows very well that he will get into a scrape, if he exposes the maladministration of the state, or publishes any reports unfavourable to it. These are regarded as serious offences, and strict punishment is meted out to the offending correspondents. The efforts made to

Indian Press, Delhi, &c., in its various issues, has been constantly making the native press more and more independent. A true insight into the actual state of affairs in native States will never be possible until the Government places the relations between native chiefs and the native press on a better footing. It should be ruled that no chief, or State, or Government, or take any legal steps against a correspondent or editor of a newspaper, without previously obtaining the sanction of the Government, as is the case in British territories.

The *Punjab Akhbar* of the 23rd December, in its correspondence column, notices a case of dacoity in the village of Sarada in Kotah. On the 26th of November last fourteen shops of Mahajans were robbed of fifteen or sixteen thousand rupees worth of property.

The *Amul Lohri* of the 22nd December complains of Maharaja Seindia's neglect to repair the bathing ghat at Benares, built by him some time ago at the expense of eight or ten lakhs of rupees. The ghat is at present unfit for use. The editor censures the Maharaja for wasting his money in useless things, while he is so stingy in useful and charitable matters. The Maharaja has contributed not more than fifty thousand rupees—a sum quite disproportionate to his great resources for the relief of the famine-stricken people of the Deccan; while, on the contrary, he has spent lakhs of rupees in giving dinners to Europeans in Gwalior in honour of the assumption of the title of Empress by Her Majesty. He will also give a ball to Europeans at Delhi, which will cost him about fifty thousand rupees.

The *Kab-i-Naz* of the 23rd December publishes an Urdu version of the letter which attacked Khuda Bulshah, who was once a teacher to the late Maharaja of Patna, and was the editor of the *Friend of India*, and which appeared in the issue of the 4th November 1876 of that paper. The letter is intended to expose the oppression and mismanagement of Khuda Bulshah during the life.

time of the late Maharaja. The Khalifa has accused the master of insolence and ingratitude to the late Maharaja, and called upon the council of regency to punish him. The editor thinks that the charges brought against master Khuda Baksh by the Khalifa are unfounded, and considers the letter of the master to be a true account of the Khalifa's administration.

TURKEY AND THE MUSSALMANS OF INDIA.

The *Aligarh Institute Gazette* of the 22nd December, on the authority of his Saharanpur correspondent, says that the court at Saharanpur, to which the Mahammadans of the district applied for permission to collect subscriptions for the relief of the wounded soldiers and destitute orphans and widows in Turkey, has refused to sanction the application. The court said in reply that Turkey was not in want of any foreign aid, and that the project for the collection of subscription was based on fraudulent motives. The editor regards the decision of the court as objectionable in several points. The subscription is intended for the treatment of the wounded soldiers and relief of the distressed orphans and widows in Turkey, and not for the support of the Porte. Subscriptions are being raised for the same purpose at many large cities, as Calcutta, Bombay, Lahore, Madras, Haidarabad, &c., and meetings are held by Mussalmans, but the Government of India has not yet thought fit to issue any prohibitory orders. Even Englishmen have sent subscriptions from London for similar purposes to Servia: nor can the Court at Saharanpur have any valid reasons to doubt the honesty of the petitioners, who represent all classes of the Mussalman community.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The *Vakil-i-Hindustan* of the 23rd December directs the attention of the Government to the low scale of pay allowed to the native infantry. The present scale of pay was fixed in the infancy of the Bengal native army, when prices were very low, and has continued unaltered (excepting the slight modifications made by Lord Lawrence in 1864), although circumstances have undergone a complete revolution. The

cost of living has largely increased. The work that a soldier has now to do, and does it intelligently, is much more arduous than it was formerly. The dangers of the present times are much more deadly than those that existed before. One regiment of European soldiers costs the state as much as ten regiments of native soldiers. A native soldier has to support his family. He knows nothing of the comforts of life. His inadequate pay does not allow him to provide himself with good and healthy food, as his profession requires. His pension is small in proportion. Her Majesty is no longer the Queen of Great Britain alone, she is also the Empress of India. The native soldier has now the same claims upon her kindness as the European. It is to be hoped that the first thing that the Government does in commemoration of the assumption of the title of Empress by Her Majesty will be the improvement of the condition of the native soldier.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 23rd December complains of the bad conduct of European soldiers. Instances of their misbehaviour towards the natives are pretty frequent. Their conduct is sometimes very gross and irritating. It is not seldom that they are found to behave culpably towards native women. To check their misbehaviour, the Government should ask their officers to warn them for the future, and invest the police and judicial officers with powers to arrest and punish them whenever they are found guilty of any offence of this kind.

A correspondent of the *Tajul Akhbar* of the 28th December severely remonstrates against the jail discipline in India, which tolerates a distinction between native and European prisoners. A jail may be called a hell upon earth. But hell differs from a jail in one respect. Hell deals out impartial punishment and affliction to its inmates according to their sins, not according to their skins. But the jail recognises a distinction of skins and sins. The unlucky dark-skinned native is fed at a cost of half an anna per day. He has to work at the corn-mills and the oil-press, and to perform other laborious

tasks. He has to sleep on coarse matting at night in a cell, with twenty or thirty of his brethren, during all the varying seasons of the year. He is not allowed to correspond with his friends. He cannot perform his religious rites and practices. When he dies his body is disposed of with little regard to usual funeral ceremonies. But a European or even a Eurasian convict does not fare so badly in the jail. His board is delicately provided at a daily cost of four annas. He has a room to himself, furnished with a snug bed, a table, and a chair. He gets a good covering in the winter. He has a *punka* in the summer, which is pulled by a dark-skinned prisoner. He is at liberty to correspond with his friends. He can amuse himself with newspapers. He can freely perform his religious rites. He has his sacred books to read, and can avail himself of the sermons of a preacher at pleasure. He has very light tasks to do, as to make envelopes, to rule paper, or at most to do writing work. If he dies in the jail he is buried in the cemetery with all the customary ceremonies by his friends. The black and the white are the creatures of one Almighty God. Both are subject to the same Queen and the same law. But why does not the jail discipline treat them equally? Justice and fair-play would demand that they should undergo the same rigorous incarceration, just as the law provides equal punishment for them. This difference of treatment in the jail is attributed to various causes by the people. Some trace it to the fact that Europeans are the conquerors and natives the conquered. Some ascribe it to the distinction of race or creed. By others Europeans are regarded as of a far more delicate constitution than the natives. Let the cause be what it may, the writer would not urge any relaxation of the severities practised on the prisoners. He would only ask that the native prisoners also should be allowed to observe their daily religious rites, as the performance of prayers, &c., and that their funeral ceremonies should be performed in a pretty decent way in accordance with their religious prejudices, if they die in prison.

The *Mail* of the 20th December complains that the measures adopted by the Government for the relief of the famine-stricken districts in the Deccan fall far short of the mark. The area in which the distress prevails in the Deccan is much larger than the one afflicted by the late Bengal famine. The former embraces in the Bombay Presidency alone about sixty-four thousand square miles, in addition to six districts of the Madras Presidency, Mysore, and part of the Nizam's territories, while the latter was confined to forty thousand square miles. Besides, the sufferers of the Deccan are worse off than were those of Bengal, inasmuch as there is no rich nobility in the Deccan to supplement the benevolent endeavours of the Government. During the time of the prevalence of the Bengal famine, the Viceroy remained in Calcutta to see that prompt and effectual measures were taken to alleviate the distresses of the sufferers. But the Governor of Bombay has assumed an air of sullen indifference at the calamity prevailing in his presidency. This is probably due to the fact that the Government of India has several times brought him into disgrace and curtailed his authority. The Government of India rejected his proposal to open railway communication between Dhond and Mammad. (This being the case, it is obvious that he will never engage in any undertaking on his own responsibility.) The Collector of Kaladgi requested his permission to purchase grain for the sufferers, which he at once refused. Thus the Governor is lukewarm or indifferent to the miseries of the people. The Viceroy is absorbed in the joy of the proclamation durbat. The home charges, amounting to one-third of the total revenues of the Indian Government, and the enormous loss by exchange, will soon bring the riches of India to a termination. In the event of a war, which is imminent between Russia and England on the Eastern question, the famine-stricken people of the Deccan will be neglected and left to shift for themselves. The editor then impresses upon the native relief fund committees the

necessity of doing all they can to alleviate distress, inasmuch as they are better suited for the task than the European foreigners, who are not so well acquainted with the country. He also publishes a letter which he has received from the Secretary to the Indapur Relief Fund Committee, giving an account of the relief rendered by the committee to the sufferers of that district.

PRESS.

A correspondent of the *Anjuman-i-Panjāb* of the 22nd December points out at great length how some of the native journalists abuse the liberty of the press. They publish false reports about the misgovernment and mal-administration of any native state, so that the chief, fearing lest the Government may be misled and alienated from him by their mischievous reports, may be compelled to shut their mouths by a suitable subsidy. They are also not seldom bribed by degraded or dismissed officers of native states to abuse their liberty in their favour. Suppose a high official of a native state is for some reason or other justly compelled by the chief to resign his office, he at once puts himself in communication with the editor of a venal native newspaper. The editor is paid by him to condemn his successor's policy and extol his own. The Government should therefore be extremely cautious in receiving any reports and criticisms of the native press. It should never act upon them in haste, or begin to institute open inquiries into the conduct of the chief complained against, the unfortunate effect of which will be that it will causelessly displease and vex the chief by appearing to doubt his honesty and sagacity. The Government should warn the kind of journalists the writer has been speaking of in a way that may not clash with their liberty, that they may be induced to exercise scrupulous care in what they publish, either themselves or on the authority of their correspondents.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

A correspondent of the *Kabul-i-Mahdum* of the 23rd December complains that a rain, who lately celebrated a mar-

rise of kashmir. Dardistan, like Butandshahr, and spent about four lakhs of rupees by its collected milk throughout the kashmir by force, and imprisoned criminals—as barbers, kashmiris, &c.—for two months without making any adequate remuneration. It is a matter of deep regret that the English civilization has not yet affected the rich nobility of the land, though the Government, overlooking their words and deeds, honours them with seats at royal darbars.

A correspondent of the *Urdū Akhbār* of the 23rd December complains that there are only three savings banks in Berar—at Akola, Omraoti, and Khamgaon; hence great inconvenience is experienced by the people of villages and towns when they wish to deposit their money in a savings bank. The Government should, therefore, empower tahsildars to receive money from the people and grant them receipts like savings banks.

The *Bahar Mahfur* of the 22nd December, in its correspondence column, regrets to mention that a certain Collector shot a woman instead of a deer at Barouch. It is not likely that the Collector intentionally killed the woman. But, at all events, had such a deed been committed by a native, it is not easy to know what measures would have been adopted.

[The above paragraph is headed "Benares."] The *Najm-ul-Akbar*, Meerut, of the 16th December, in its local news columns, notices two instances of robbery. Within the first fortnight of December two carriages of travellers were plundered in manza Jāni, and one hundred rupees' worth of property was carried away. This is the same manza where the mail was lately plundered. The robbery of the mail has been traced to the Brahmins of Parichatgarh. Some satisfactory arrangements should be made to check these frequent occurrences in that manza.

A correspondent of the *Urdū Akhbār* of the 23rd December complains that Mr. Macintosh, the Headmaster of the

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

No.	NAME OF PAPER.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.
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